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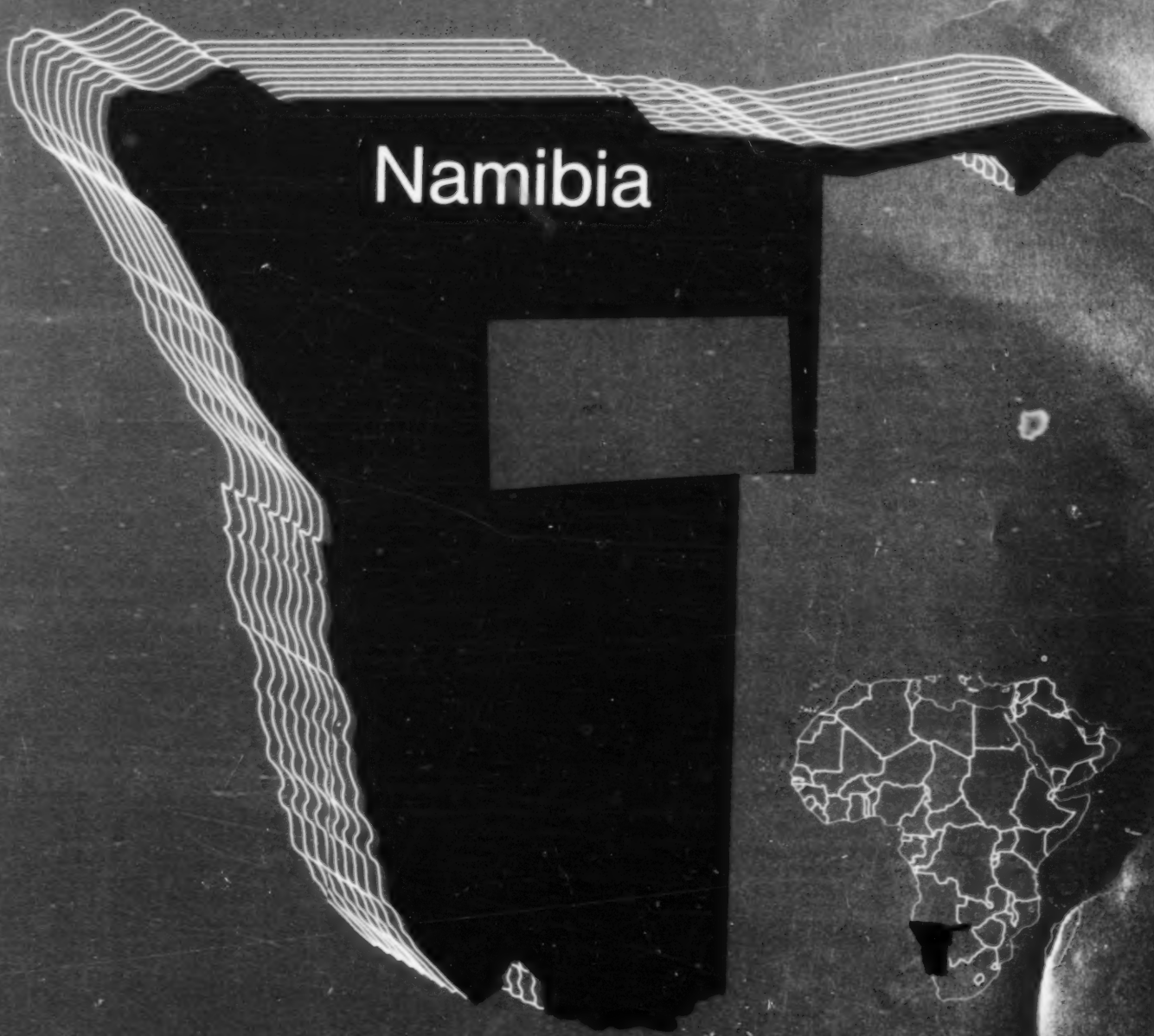
United Nations
Council for Namibia
1981

Nationhood Programme for Namibia



NATIONHOOD PROGRAMME

In December 1976 the General Assembly of the United Nations launched in support of the nationhood of Namibia, a comprehensive assistance programme within the United Nations system, covering both the present period of struggle for independence and the initial years of independence for Namibia.

In keeping with its mandate as the legal administering authority for Namibia until independence, the United Nations Council for Namibia is directing and coordinating the implementation of the programme.

The Nationhood Programme, which covers the economic and social sectors of Namibia, provides training opportunities, basic data analysis and policy options to enable Namibians to assume administrative and technical responsibilities in an independent Namibia.

Prepared by the Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia

FACTS ON NAMIBIA

Namibia is a vast, semi-arid, mineral-rich territory in southern Africa with a total area of 824,000 kilometres (318,000 sq. miles) and an estimated population of 1.5 million. It is bordered on the north by Angola, on the south and south-east by South Africa, on the east by Botswana, and the narrow Caprivi Strip, extending 300 miles eastward, shares borders with both Zambia and Botswana.

After World War I, in 1920, Namibia—then South West Africa—became a League of Nations Mandate under South African administration. In 1966 the United Nations decided to revoke South Africa's mandate over South West Africa and to place the territory under the direct responsibility of the United Nations. South Africa has continued its illegal occupation of Namibia in contravention of General Assembly and Security Council resolutions and an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice.

The economy is controlled exclusively by the South African occupation regime and its settlers, along with foreign investors. The majority of the African Namibians make their livelihood from subsistence agriculture supplemented by contract labour in the mines and work in the urban areas.

The mineral industry, producing uranium, gem diamonds, copper and other base metals, accounts for approximately 50 per cent of the territory's gross domestic product (GDP). Agriculture, the production of beef and meat products as well as karakul pelts, contributes 11 per cent to the GDP. The fishing industry, while greatly weakened by overfishing in recent years, is responsible for 3.5 per cent of GDP. The manufacturing sector is relatively small, accounting for only 6 per cent of the GDP. The remainder of the monetary product originates from the construction industry and the service sectors.

Namibia is totally dependent upon South Africa in the fields of trade, investment capital and technical as well as managerial skills. More than 50 per cent of all its raw material exports go to South Africa and 95 per cent of its imports come from there.

The illegal South African colonial régime has long enforced by law its *apartheid* policy, and in practice it still permeates every aspect of the social sector. In the field of health there are separate and inferior facilities for the African Namibians. In housing, people are segregated by colour and group. In the field of labour, technical and professional jobs are reserved for white Namibians and settlers and contract and menial labour for African Namibians. Education is similarly segregated by group and there is no advanced education available beyond the secondary level. The entire country is divided into *bantustans* (homelands) and people are segregated by group. In the areas controlled by the settlers and white Namibians the African Namibians live only in locations specified for their particular group.

UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA

The Council for Namibia was established in 1967 as the legal administering authority for Namibia until genuine independence is achieved. It is entrusted with the task of preparing Namibia for independence and emphasizing and espousing the responsibility of the United Nations system for Namibia. Its activities include identification of ways and means by which South Africa can be pressured to withdraw its illegal occupation régime from Namibia. It seeks to accomplish this task through consultations with Governments of Member States of the U.N.; through efforts to ensure compliance of Member States with United Nations resolutions on Namibia and with the International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion of 21 June 1971; by espousing the activities of foreign economic interests in Namibia by showing how these activities support the illegal South African presence; by promoting publicity on Namibia; through mobilization of international support for the liberation of Namibia; and through exposure of the illegal presence and repressive policies and practices of the South African régime in Namibia.

In addition it assists the Namibian people and supports the struggle of the people of the Territory under the leadership of SWAPO by raising funds for and administering the United Nations Fund for Namibia and through this by financing education and training programmes including the United Nations Institute for Namibia; by providing humanitarian assistance; by directing and coordinating the implementation of the Nationhood Programme for Namibia; by provision of travel and identity documents; and by ensuring that Namibians participate fully in the work of the Council and by representing Namibian interests in international organizations and conferences.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

The Council is composed of the following countries: Algeria, Angola, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Chile, China, Colombia, Cyprus, Egypt, Finland, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Liberia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Cameroon, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

The representative of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), which has permanent observer status in the United Nations General Assembly, participates in the work of the Council for Namibia. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) also participates in the work of the Council for Namibia in an observer capacity.

Nationhood Programme projects by percentage of the total of 46 projects

TRAINING PROJECTS UNDER THE PROGRAME—BACKGROUND

Due to the inferior system of Bantu education in Namibia, very few Namibians have had a sound basic education; very few graduate from secondary school; and due to the absence of a college or university in Namibia, even fewer have obtained degrees or certificates in post-secondary education. Technical training is also neglected or non-existent because skilled jobs are reserved for whites.

Accordingly, training has a prominent position within the activities of the Nationhood Programme. 44 per cent of the total of 46 projects are devoted to non-formal and formal education. 26 per cent of the total projects provide a combination of research and training.

TRAINING PROJECTS—HIGHLIGHTS

The Vocational Training Centre is the largest among the training projects. It is under construction in Angola and the initial intake of 100 students is expected in June 1981. It will provide a range of vocational training courses to Namibians who have had only primary education.

Since the inception of the programme, a number of Namibians have been placed in training programmes at institutions in various countries. Fifteen Namibians completed training in the management of public enterprises at the International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries (ICPE), in Yugoslavia. Three Namibian students completed training in labour legislation in the United Kingdom. Nine students completed an intensive training programme in human settlements and land-use planning in Kenya, Mozambique, Senegal and Zambia. In the project participation of women in development six women completed training in journalism. One student has begun a course in industrial development training and six others are awaiting placement. Two students are undergoing rail transport training in Zambia and two others are expected to begin training in Tanzania.

Four students embarked on a 15-month training programme in economic development planning at the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) in Senegal. Fifteen students are about to begin training as labour administrators.

Six Namibians are currently studying food and nutrition in the United Kingdom. Nineteen students are about to begin a course in food distribution and nutrition in Zambia.

Twenty students are about to begin a training programme in broadcasting and communications equipment maintenance.

Approximate places available for training

		Total
Training Projects		20
Fellowships and Group Training	350	
Research Projects		13
Seminar Participants	200	
Research and Training Projects Combined		12
Fellowships and Group Training	270	

RESEARCH PROJECTS UNDER THE PROGRAMME—BACKGROUND

Detailed surveys and statistical data on Namibia's economic and social sectors are very difficult to obtain. Since the late 1960s South Africa stopped publishing separate statistics on Namibia. The situation is further complicated by the fact that in keeping with *apartheid* policies little information has been compiled regarding the Namibian people. The information which is available is either in South Africa or Namibia itself and thus difficult to obtain.

Of the 46 pre-independence projects 28 per cent are research projects and 26 per cent a combination of research and training.

SURVEY AND ANALYTICAL STUDIES—HIGHLIGHTS

The primary objectives of the research projects, which include sectoral surveys and analysis, are (i) to provide basic data (ii) to specify policy options for consideration by the Government of an independent Namibia and (iii) to identify further areas for research.

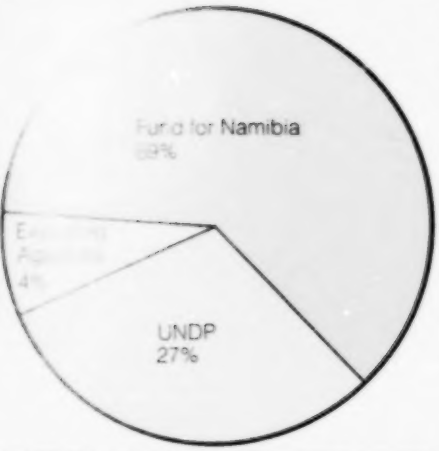
The following studies have been completed: a country health programme for Namibia; a preliminary survey of mineral resources and mining; a study on housing policy options for Namibia; a report on transnational corporations in Namibia; plans for non-discriminatory labour legislation and a transport survey.

Others under way include a study on agrarian reform options in Namibia; and a survey of potential land suitability in Namibia.

PROGRAMME

The ... Fund for Namibia is ... financing the Nationhood ... voluntary contributions from ... NGOs (non-governmental ... to the Nationhood ... of the U.N. Fund for ... ted to over $US ... period 1978-1980.

... finance for the Nationhood ... during the same period ... 200,000 from the United ... Programme and ... from the United Nations ...



Sources of Finance for the Programme by Percentage of Total Budget of $US 9,351,431

... agreement between the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the U.N. Commissioner for Namibia the UNDP administers the finances of the Nationhood Programme in accordance with UNDP rules and procedures.

... administers allocations to executing agencies for the implementation of projects and it maintains the same financial accountability as it does for its own projects.

Total Contributions to the U.N. Fund for Namibia Nationhood Programme Account

Donors	*Contributions 1978-1980*	*Contributions 1981*
	$US	*$US*
Belgium	14,000	-
Brazil	-	10,000
Cyprus	581	-
Denmark	932,749	-
Finland	1,116,114	493,827
India	1,000	1,000
Netherlands	1,000,000	-
Nigeria	10,000	-
Norway	1,022,401	168,223
Suriname	-	1,000
Sweden	2,321,295	590,551
Yugoslavia	5,000	-
Non-Governmental Organizations	1,000	-

ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

The overall Administration and Management of the Programme is the responsibility of the *Council for Namibia* through its Committee on the *United Nations Fund for Namibia*. Within its overall terms of reference, the Committee formulates and reviews policies, reviews the periodic reports of the *United Nations Commissioner for Namibia* on the status of the programme and makes appropriate recommendations to the Council.

The Commissioner for Namibia is entrusted with executive and administrative tasks of the Council for Namibia.

With respect to the Nationhood Programme, the Commissioner has been designated by the Council as the co-ordinating authority under the direction of the Committee on the U.N. Fund. The developmental, technical and management tasks are carried out by the Commissioner's Office in consultation with SWAPO and under the overall supervision of the Committee on the Fund.

For the purpose of facilitating liaison with Namibians, offices of the Commissioner for Namibia are maintained, in addition to the headquarters in New York, in Lusaka, Zambia and Gaborone, Botswana.

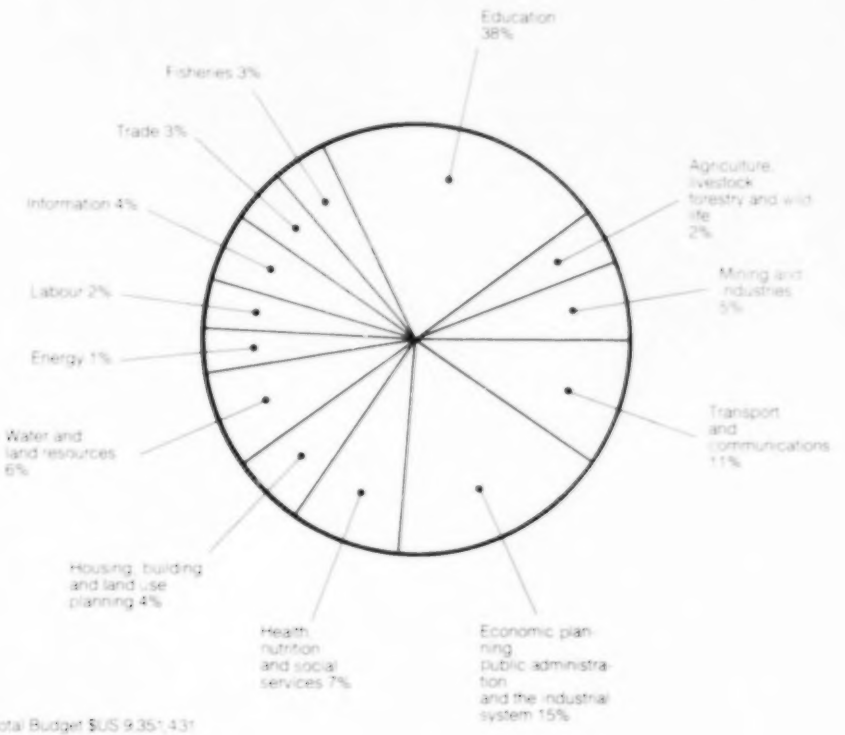
Namibians preparing foundations for vocational training centre, Angola

PROGRAMME SCOPE

The projects of the Nationhood Programme fall under the following sectors:

A. Productive sectors
   1. Mining and industries
   2. Fisheries
   3. Agriculture, livestock, forestry and wildlife
B. Physical infrastructure and services
   1. Trade
   2. Transport and communications
   3. Energy
   4. Water and land resources
C. Social infrastructure and administration
   1. Labour
   2. Education
   3. Information
   4. Health, nutrition and social services
   5. Housing, building and land use planning
   6. Economic planning, public administration and the judicial system

Percentage of Total Budget Devoted to Each Sector[a]

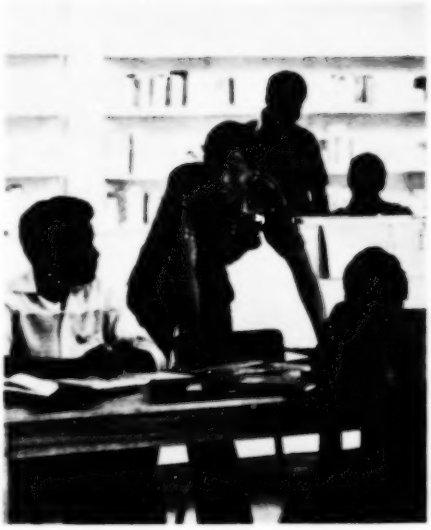

Education 38%
Fisheries 3%
Trade 3%
Information 4%
Labour 2%
Energy 1%
Water and land resources 6%
Housing, building and land use planning 4%
Health, nutrition and social services 7%
Economic planning public administration and the industrial system 15%
Transport and communications 11%
Mining and industries 5%
Agriculture, livestock forestry and wildlife 2%

[a] Total Budget $US 9,351,431

U.N. INSTITUTE FOR NAMIBIA

The U.N. Institute for Namibia (UNIN) was established in Lusaka in 1976 to meet the need for trained middle-level administrators for the civil service of a future independent Namibia. The Institute has six Divisions, each entrusted with both research and training activities within its spheres of competence. Divisions include Constitutional, Legal and Judicial Affairs; Historical, Political and Cultural; Economics; Agricultural and Land Resources; Social and Education; Information and Documentation Centre on Namibia.

The Nationhood Programme activities are coordinated closely with those of the United Nations Institute for Namibia and a number of the projects are implemented by the Institute.



EXECUTING AGENCIES

The United Nations Specialized Agencies and other U.N. organizations provide technical assistance for the Nationhood Programme projects through their role as executing agencies. These include UNTCD, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, ICAO, WMO, IMCO, ITU, UNIDO, UNCTAD, ECA, HABITAT, UNCTC, COMNAM. Approximately 4 per cent of the total budgetary resources made available to the Nationhood Programme derive directly from the agencies and those agencies which provide funding for projects from their own funds are as follows: UNTCD, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, UNIDO, UNCTC. The United Nations Agencies and organizations which partially or fully waived overhead administrative costs are as follows: ILO, FAO, UNESCO, IMCO, UNCTAD.

FOR MORE INFOMATION

The Assistance Programmes Unit and the Information Unit of the Office of the Commissioner for Namibia have available a range of materials related to Namibia and the Nationhood Programme. To receive these publications write to:

Office of the Commissioner for Namibia
United Nations, Room DC 328, New York, N.Y. 10017